



Press Release

For Immediate Release: June 15, 2023

Contact: Sheree Storm, sstorm@dientes.org, 831-600-8256

Dientes Expands with July 5th Opening of New Pioneer Street Dental Clinic

Serving 450 more patients through another state-of-the-art clinic in Santa Cruz County

(Santa Cruz, CA) - Dientes Community Dental Care will soon open doors to their newest clinic at 100 Pioneer Street in the Harvey West neighborhood of Santa Cruz. As a demonstration of Dientes' continued commitment to provide high quality, comprehensive oral health care, this new facility will open on Tuesday, July 5, 2023. The new clinic replaces Dientes' Beach Flats clinic, which closed in May due to flooding. The upgraded, five-chair Pioneer Street clinic also increases Dientes' capacity to serve an additional 450 low-income Santa Cruz residents. It also addresses a community need outlined in Dientes' 2022 Oral Health Report, which highlights that only one in four adults with Medi-Cal are able to go to the dentist because of capacity issues.

"We are excited to bring more oral healthcare to Santa Cruz to address a glaring need," said Dientes CEO Laura Marcus. "Our new Pioneer Street location, with an extra dental chair and improved facilities, allows us to serve more patients, especially low-income adults. We believe everyone in our community should have the dignity that comes with a healthy smile."

Dr. Samuel Kuo, Dientes Pioneer Street Lead Dentist, added, "Our priority is to provide excellent dental care – care that ultimately improves our patient's lives. This was my experience as a young Dientes patient over 20 years ago, and it's why I am here today – to make a difference and give back to my community. We are looking forward to welcoming our existing patients and meeting new ones when we open the Pioneer Street clinic."

The new 100 Pioneer Street clinic is equipped with state-of-the-art dental technology and will offer a wide array of comprehensive care. The additional chair enables Dientes to serve more patients and reduce wait times. Its convenient location in the Harvey West neighborhood will

1830 Commercial Way, Santa Cruz, CA 95065 **P** : 831.464.5409 **F** : 831.464.5416

www.dientes.org

also make care easier to access for patients, as it is located near major public transportation routes and offers ample parking, as compared to the former Beach Flats clinic.

Dientes' existing Beach Flats patients will have their care transferred to Pioneer Street upon opening July 5th. Information to book an appointment or join the patient waitlist at the new Pioneer Street clinic can be found at: dientes.org/appointments

To read the 2022 Oral Health Report: dientes.org/power-of-a-smile/publications/

#

Dientes Community Dental Care's mission is to create lasting oral health for the underserved children and adults in Santa Cruz County and neighboring communities. 96% of Dientes' patients live at or below the poverty level. Dientes accepts Medi-Cal and offers sliding scale fees for uninsured patients.